

## **NOTICE OF UTILITY TARIFF FILING**

The REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA (Commission) gives notice of changes to the Valley Water Company, Inc. (VWCI) tariff revision for its water utility (TA25-241). In TA25-241, VWCI proposed to add a new section entitled – Water Use Curtailment Plan to its tariff. Upon review, the Commission has revised the proposed Water Use Curtailment Plan filed by VWCI. Excerpts from some of the changes to the proposed provisions of the Water Curtailment Plan are listed below. This notice does not contain all of the proposed revisions.

- **Purpose:**

Past experience has shown diminished water flow has occurred during the months of May, June, July, and August. The purpose of this water management plan is to provide a consistent mechanism for providing adequate water flow and pressure to all the customers on Valley Water's system. This plan affects outdoor watering for all Valley Water Customers.

- I. **Mandatory Water Restriction Plan:**

Based on the public water system ability to meet demand, the Certified Water System Operator will determine when the Mandatory Water Restriction Plan (Plan) will be implemented. A notice of mandatory water restrictions and the anticipated duration of the mandatory restriction will be delivered to customers at least 24 hours before implementation. The Certified Water System Operator will use door hangers to notify customers when the mandatory requirements of the Plan are to be followed.

The notice will be the customers' notification to follow the Plan. The Plan includes a lawn and landscape watering schedule based on the customer's street address.

- 1. **Existing lawns, trees, shrubs, and large plants:**

- a. Customers whose addresses end with an odd number may water on odd days of the month from 10 pm to 7 am.
- b. Customers whose addresses end with an even number may water on even days of the month from 10 pm to 7 am.

- c. Reclaimed or Non-Potable Water may be used without restrictions.<sup>1</sup>

## **2. Provisions for new lawns installed when the Plan is in place:**

- a. The customer installing a new lawn when the Plan is in place must provide the Certified Water System Operator with a written notice a minimum of 24 hours before installing a new lawn.
- b. New lawns installed May 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>:
  - i. For the first 14 days after the lawn is seeded, the lawn is to be kept moist at all times. The lawn may be watered several times a day.
  - ii. For the next 60 days, lawns may be watered up to twice a day until ground is sufficiently moist.
  - iii. At the end of the above referenced 60 days, the even/odd watering schedule will apply.

## **3. Provisions for new trees and shrubs planted when the Plan is in place:**

- a. The customer installing new trees and/or shrubs when the Plan is in place must provide the certified Water System Operator with a written notice a minimum of 24 hours before planting.
- b. New trees or shrubs planted May 1st through August 31<sup>st</sup>:
  - i. For the first 14 days after the tree(s) or shrub(s) is planted needs to be kept moist. The tree(s) or shrub(s) may be watered daily, up to two hours per plant per day without the time limit or the even/odd watering schedule.
  - ii. For the next 60 days, each plant may be watered daily, up to one hour per plant per day without the time limit or the even/odd watering schedule.
  - iii. At the end of the above referenced 60 days, the even/odd watering schedule will apply.

## **4. Other Provisions when the Plan is in place:**

- a. Hand washing of all types of vehicles when the Plan is in place is prohibited.
- b. All outdoor water usage not covered in Sections C (1), (2), or (3) will follow the watering schedule found in Section C (1). Outdoor water usage, including but not limited to: filling swimming and waterfowl pools, water slides, decorative ponds, animals, etc.

- **Offenses:**

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<sup>1</sup> Please remember that the treatment and discharge of reclaimed or non-potable water may require approval from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

Offenses only apply when the mandatory water restriction plan is in effect. Violation of the water days and times described in the mandatory water restriction plan is considered an offense.

1. A person is considered to have committed an offense if the person knowingly or recklessly causes or allows watering located on any property owned, leased or managed by that person in such a manner that causes the following:
  - a. Over watering lawn or landscape, such that a consistent stream of water overflows from the lawn or landscape in street or other drainage area for more than 50 feet ; or
  - b. Watering lawn or landscape during any form of precipitation. This restriction applies to all forms of watering, including automatic sprinkler systems; or
  - c. Watering of impervious surfaces, wind driven water drift is taken into consideration; or
  - d. Watering and any other outdoor water usage on an unauthorized day; or
  - e. Not notifying Certified Water System Operator of the planting of a new lawn, tree, or shrub as required in Sections C(2) and C(3) ; or Hand washing of all types of vehicles.

The Commission may approve a rate or classification which varies from that proposed. You may obtain more information about this filing from Valley Water Company, Inc. at P.O. Box 58020, Fairbanks, AK. You may inspect the filing at the Commission's offices at 701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. You may also view the filing via our website at <http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/home.aspx>.

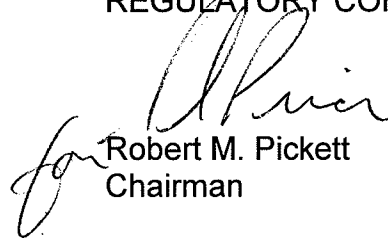
To comment on this filing, please file your comments by September 7, 2009, at either the Commission address given above or via our website at <https://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/WhatsNew/PublicNoticesComments.aspx>.

Please reference TA25-241 in the subject line of your comments and include a

statement that you have filed a copy of the comments with VVCI at its address given above or [valleywaterco@hotmail.com](mailto:valleywaterco@hotmail.com). Individuals or groups of people with disabilities, who require special accommodations, auxiliary aids or service, or alternative communication formats, please contact Joyce McGowan at 276-6222, toll-free at 1-800-390-2782, or TDD (907) 276-4533 by August 26, 2009.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 6th day of August, 2009.

REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

  
for Robert M. Pickett  
Chairman